



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

New Business - Development and Environmental Services Group

J.2.

12/3/2024

Subject:

Board direction regarding the request from Space Florida to connect to the Merritt Island (Sykes Creek) wastewater system and the participation of Space Florida and State Agencies in a regional Port St. John wastewater treatment facility and force main (District 1 & 2).

Fiscal Impact:

To be determined

Dept/Office:

Utility Services Department

Requested Action:

Staff is requesting direction from the Board on the efforts associated with the request of Space Florida to connect to the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater system and the participation of Space Florida, State Agencies and Brevard County related to a regional Port St. John wastewater treatment facility and related force main.

Summary Explanation and Background:

Approximately six years ago, Brevard County was approached by several entities at the Kennedy Space Center / Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, including NASA and Space Florida regarding the ability to connect to the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater system for additional treatment capacity. The Utilities Department was open to the concept. Minimal follow up, however, occurred between the interested entities to pursue this further until July 2024.

On August 13, 2024, Brevard County received a letter from Space Florida requesting the County's support to connect to the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater system (see Attachment A). In their request, Space Florida is seeking to add 300,000 gallons per day by 2027. This request for additional treatment capacity at the Merritt Island Sykes Creek treatment plant addresses short term needs of Space Florida. On August 16, 2024, the County responded as shown as Attachment B. In this response, we stated our willingness to work with Space Florida over the last six years and what steps need to be taken to move this initiative forward. These steps include: (1) an analysis of the ability of the existing collection system to support the additional flow proposed by Space Florida, over a projected 10 year period; (2) due diligence evaluating the quality of the waste stream produced by Space Florida and its compatibility with the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant; (3) discussion on the duration of diverting flow to the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant before the need of that capacity for current residential and commercial rate payers of Merritt Island due to future growth and septic-to-sewer connections. These steps will need to be completed to draft an agreement in order to include ownership, responsibilities, consequences, and a fee structure fair for Brevard County utility services rate payers.

Since August 2024, Brevard County and Space Florida have met monthly to discuss and move forward on the due diligence items outlined above. Efforts are on-going as data from Space Florida is still needed and technical evaluations are in progress by the county's consultant under contract with the Utilities Department.

On October 28, 2024, Brevard County received a letter from the State of Florida (see Attachment C) requesting our cooperation in the implementation of Space Florida's connection to the Merritt Island Sykes Creek wastewater system. On November 5, 2024, the County responded via letter (see Attachment D) to explain our continued support of the growth of Space Florida and our willingness to work with them. County staff focused on that working with Space Florida is defined by short- and long-term goals and objectives. The short-term needs and objectives summarizes much of what Utilities explained in the August 16, 2024, letter from the County to Space Florida, staff explained the need of the due diligence and defined it along with the need of an agreement that is fair for all parties. The long-term solution describes the commitment the County has made in pursuing a regional wastewater treatment plant where all wastewater flow from the Space Florida, Cape Canaveral SFS, and any other stakeholders have the ability to connect to and for the benefit of resiliency, environment, and consolidation of wastewater utilities at a mainland regional wastewater facility. As part of this commitment, the County, in partnership with the Economic Development Commission, secured a \$750,000 grant from the Department of Defense to pursue such a study to evaluate and perform initial designs in the pursuit of a regional wastewater treatment plant in the vicinity of Port St John. In addition to the benefits mentioned above associated with Space Florida, this regional facility would be a replacement to the existing facility in Port St. John with added capacity and a much higher treatment quality. County Utilities recognizes the magnitude of such an initiative and received approval from the Board at the August 6, 2024, Regular Board meeting to contribute an additional \$1.717M for funding by the Utility Services Department. A draft Request for Qualifications is under review and will be advertised seeking an engineering firm to conduct the due diligence, short-term and long-term, analysis required with a target completion date no later than May 2026.

In summary, Brevard County and Space Florida are in ongoing discussions to perform the due diligence required to move these initiatives forward. These actions will help determine and the need the level of investments needed to accommodate the current and future treatment capacity which Space Florida is seeking.

County staff is seeking Board input and direction at this point. County staff's current position is that any short-term investments needed must be paid wholly by Space Florida and / or other partners in addition to any service and rate fees for fair compensation. The County is also seeking a commitment from Space Florida to contribute their proportionate share of: (1) the cost of transferring wastewater flows from Kennedy Space Center to a new regional facility located in Port St. John; (2) the cost of construction for the capacity that will be utilized in the near term by Space Florida at the Merritt Island Sykes Creek facility; (3) any additional capacity construction costs that are associated with additional future capacity for Space Florida at the new Port St. John Regional facility.

Attachment A - Letter from Space Florida to Brevard County dated August 13, 2024.

Attachment B - Response from Brevard County dated August 16, 2024, to Attachment A letter.

Attachment C - Letter from State of Florida to Brevard County dated October 28, 2024.

Attachment D - Response from Brevard County dated November 5, 2024, to Attachment C.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Please email the Clerk's memo to karina.perez@brevardfl.gov and mail the original to the Utility Services Department.



Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board, 400 South Street • P.O. Box 999, Titusville, Florida 32781-0999

Telephone: (321) 637-2001
Fax: (321) 264-6972
Kimberly.Powell@brevardclerk.us

December 4, 2024

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Edward Fontanin, Utility Services Director

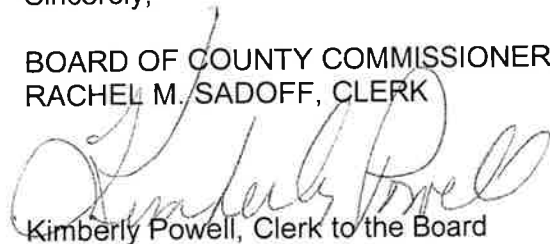
RE: Item J.2., Request from Space Florida to Connect to the Merritt Island (Sykes Creek) Wastewater System and the Participation of Space Florida and State Agencies in a Regional Port St. John Wastewater Treatment Facility and Force Main

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on December 3, 2024, directed staff to meet with Space Florida to review all of the letters received and to vet all the issues for the request from Space Florida to connect to the Merritt Island (Sykes Creek) Wastewater System and the participation of Space Florida and State Agencies in a regional Port St. John wastewater treatment facility and related force main; and authorized for a report to come back to the Board.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK



Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/ds

cc: Each Commissioner
County Manager
County Attorney



August 13, 2024

Commissioner Jason Steele (Chair)

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Viera, FL 32940

RE: Request to Connect to Brevard County's Sykes Creek Wastewater System

Dear Commissioner Steele (Chair) and the Brevard County Board of Commissioners:

Thank you for your May 2, 2024, letter of support regarding the Space Florida-led project to relieve existing constraints to growth on the Cape Canaveral Spaceport by constructing a new wastewater connection from the spaceport to the Brevard County Sykes Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility.

As you are aware, Space Florida and space industry stakeholders requested the County's involvement in this project due to its criticality to Cape Canaveral Spaceport growth. The phenomenal pace of this growth, which includes Kennedy Space Center (KSC) and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS), is straining the current infrastructure requiring the Space Force to begin denying permits to tie into the existing CCSFS wastewater treatment plant.

At several times in the past, Space Florida has approached Brevard County concerning a proposal to divert wastewater flow to Brevard County's Sykes Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility from new commercial development areas at KSC. This project will relieve capacity demands on the existing CCSFS wastewater plant and was included as Alternative 3, Phase 1 as identified in a 2023 study by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (EDC). We understand that the County is pursuing funding for the preliminary design of Alternate 3 with the EDC.

Space Florida wishes to move forward with the project in a phased approach by first connecting Exploration Park and Roberts Road areas. The project is already partially funded with a \$10M grant provided by FDOT as part of Space Florida's Spaceport Improvement Program. Additionally, thanks to County support, Congressman Posey recently secured an initial \$800K in Community Project Funding (CFP) to expand the pipeline on Roberts Road to the north, with an expectation of more to follow. Space Florida is requesting the County's support and prioritization to allow connecting up to 300,000 gallons per day by 2027.



While this project is not without challenges, we believe that any gating issues can be addressed, and ask that our staffs collaborate to move the project forward expeditiously. Without such collaboration and the successful completion of this project, all new development on the spaceport will be impacted immediately with consequent impacts on local economic growth. We propose a monthly working session to resolve any remaining open issues and establish roles and stakeholder financial responsibilities between Space Florida and Brevard County.

We appreciate the strong and longstanding partnership with Brevard County, which has been vital to building the world's leading spaceport here on the Space Coast. We look forward to continuing that partnership and the Council's involvement and commitment to sustaining our global advantage.

Sincerely,

Rob Long, President & CEO, Space Florida

cc:

Frank Abbate, County Manager
John Denninghoff, PE, Assistant County Manager
Edward (Eddie) Fontanin, PE, Utility Services Director



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

UTILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Permitting Section
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Room 213
Viera, Florida 32940

August 16, 2024

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Space Florida

Attn: Rob Long, President & CEO

505 Odyssey Way, Suite 300

Exploration Park, FL 32953

Re: Response to Space Florida Letter dated August 13, 2024
Request to Connect to Brevard County's Sykes Creek Wastewater System

Dear Mr. Long,

I am in receipt of your letter dated August 13, 2024, regarding your request to connect to Brevard County's Sykes Creek Wastewater Treatment System. Brevard County Utilities remains committed to working together with Space Florida on the challenges associated with providing adequate wastewater treatment moving forward. During the last 6 years, we have had multiple meetings with Space Florida representatives and other organizations to discuss wastewater needs. Each request made to meet with County staff has been responded to expeditiously. These meetings have included representatives from Space Florida, NASA, Blue Origin and Space X. At each of these meetings initial conceptual discussions were undertaken focused on how to get additional treatment plant capacity. It has always been a goal of the County to be a good partner and supporter to growth within Space Florida. We welcomed a continuation in the dialogue with your staff to develop these initial discussions with hope of partnering on the due diligence needed to make available utilization of our system for short term needs of Space Florida. Regrettably, our experience over these 6 years has been long periods of time lapse between conversations without any follow up and repetition of items discussed during our initial conversations.

Throughout each of the discussions held, including those with Space Florida, the issue of limited treatment capacity has always been discussed. At each of the meetings held I shared that to take the initial conversation to the next step would require a due diligence. This pertains to the understanding what the wastewater quality would be generated from the Federal property and whether it would be compatible with the municipal wastewater treatment plant and the deep

injection well requirements that Sykes Creek is permitted with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to accept.

Our concern remains expediting any project to meet timelines without this due diligence could leave the County responsible for not meeting State environmental compliance, resulting in State consent orders to the County. If Space Florida wants to continue exploring a request to connect, then I urge this due diligence analysis be coordinated with our office and be completed as soon as possible.

We share a desire to further strengthen a strong partnership between the County and Space Florida. To help move things along, to fast track any request for an expedited process for connection to our treatment plant, we need to come to an agreement that this request would be short term and not intended to be a permanent solution. Additionally, any needed modifications to the Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant and its deep injection wells must be paid at no cost to County Utility ratepayers. Our Sykes Creek plant was built with the capacity needed for connections within Merritt Island, not including any Federal property. Per recent State requirements, the State is requiring a plan of eliminating non and point sources of nutrient discharge within any Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). All of Merritt Island is within a BMAP because of being adjacent to the Indian River Lagoon and Banana River. Currently, projects are underway to complete septic tank-to-sewer connections projects. In three independent reviews of when the Sykes Creek treatment plant will reach capacity, the results vary from 2033 to 2037. None of these reviews incorporated inflow and infiltration as part of the flow projections. As a result, the County is willing to work with Space Florida on the connection to the Sykes Creek Facility to meet short term needs, but Space Florida needs to understand that any long-term partnership needs to look at diverting flows to a future wastewater treatment plant facility in the Port St John region.

Let me take this opportunity to recommend a path forward. In conjunction with the technical due diligence and understanding of investments needing to be made to the County's wastewater system it would benefit us to also begin discussions on an agreement between Space Florida and the County related to the connection. This agreement would need to specify that any infrastructure investment needing to be made would be paid through Space Florida or other sources, not Brevard County Utilities ratepayers. The County Utilities' current 10-year capital improvement program is over \$600M. Much of this will be funded through debt service. Our current rate structure did not incorporate any investment needed for a Space Florida related connection. We also need to identify with whatever additional force main may be needed for Space Florida to connect to our system, and who will be responsible for that force main.

The County is clearly committed to reaching a long-term solution to the important wastewater issues we all face. At the May 17, 2024, meeting held at the Economic Development Commission

(EDC) office, which Space Florida was in attendance, we met with Bill Van Houten, Department of Defense, regarding EDC and the County partnering to submit a Military Installation Resilience (MIR) grant (\$700,000) to develop a plan on providing Space Florida with additional treatment capacity. The Phase 2 study is based on diverting flows from the NASA/CCSFS to a new facility in Port St John. This is a continuation to the initial report developed by Black & Veatch for the EDC dated June 28, 2023. It was the intent of our office to utilize this Phase 2 report to accomplish some of the due diligence and further investigation needed and explained above. County Utilities has shown our commitment to this long-term solution by approving to contribute \$1.717M which, combined with other funding, will fully fund the efforts of this study.

In summary, the County is committed and already actively working on solutions for the long-term needs of Space Florida. We are open to working together to provide Space Florida with a short-term solution. Hopefully the information provided herein clarifies what Brevard utilities believes is needed to continue moving forward with the short-term solution Space Florida is seeking. We welcome meetings on a regular basis to discuss approaches on achieving the goals of Space Florida and Brevard County. We are excited to be a part of a positive community development and growth and look forward to substantive and actionable cooperative efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,



Edward Fontanin
Utility Services Director

cc: Rita Pritchett, District 1 Commissioner
Tom Goodson, District 2 Commissioner
John Tobia, District 3 Commissioner
Rob Feltner, District 4 Commissioner
Jason Steele, District 5 Commissioner
Frank Abbate, County Manager
Morris Richardson, County Attorney
John Denninghoff, Assistant County Manager



October 28, 2024

Brevard County
Board of County Commissioners
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Viera, FL 32940

Re: Water Resource Availability and Strategic Growth

Chair Steele, Vice Chair Pritchett, and Commissioners Feltner, Goodson, and Tobia:

We write to you as fellow leaders working to encourage Florida's continued growth and economic prosperity. Our shared missions are to encourage continued economic growth through strategic investments in infrastructure, natural resources, and workforce development to support our quality of life. Those investments include resources to provide ample capacity to store, treat, and convey clean water to Floridians and Florida businesses -- especially the commercial space industry. Therefore, we must work together with the space industry to ensure the availability of water resources so that Florida remains at the cutting edge of spaceflight and spaceflight technology development.

Since Cape Canaveral was first selected as a site for the nation's space mission in the mid-twentieth century, the State of Florida has brought to bear all available policy and financial mechanisms to support the aerospace industry's growth and expansion. Over the years, Brevard County has been a strong partner in supporting this critical state interest. Rest assured, your continued support for the growth of this vital industry will be met by our agencies through funding opportunities, technical assistance, and continued collaboration as the space industry looks to grow its presence in Florida.

Brevard County leads the state with 15,508 aerospace industry jobs—33% of all aerospace jobs in Florida—at the end of 2023. Those jobs pay an average annual wage of more than \$130,000—more than double the average annual wage for all other industries in Brevard County. Moreover, the industry has experienced significant, continuous growth since 2014. The growth of the space industry in your county is remarkable, and this industry is a significant part of what makes your county and our state the place that so many people have chosen to live, work, and play.

Florida's continuing success is bolstered by state investments in the success of our local communities. Communities ultimately benefit from the support the state provides when it comes to creating jobs and giving Floridians the tools they need, not only to succeed, but to live and thrive in this great state.

And to be proud to call Florida home.

To that end, our state has made unprecedented investments in infrastructure, water resource management, workforce training, and to support our air, sea, and space ports. Each of our agencies have worked tirelessly with local governments and private industry to build partnerships and cut through bureaucratic red tape.

Governor Ron DeSantis' direction to us has been clear: move forward and grow that unprecedented momentum, to push our great state to new heights. In 2023, the Governor directed \$100 million for four consecutive years to water quality improvements for the Indian River Lagoon. That funding was received in 2023—and again in 2024. As the aerospace industry continues to grow in Brevard County, the State of Florida recognizes the importance of ensuring the region can maintain ample capacity in its wastewater system to support growth in all sectors. To that end, the Department of Environmental Protection stands ready to review and fund projects that qualify for these funds to ensure the county may continue to increase its capacity for wastewater while meeting the state's notable goals of preserving the Indian River Lagoon, the most biologically diverse estuary in North America.

The Department of Environmental Protection continues to work to support the aerospace industry's ability to meet Florida's water quality standards—standards that would easily be met if the county committed to allowing the industry to utilize available wastewater capacity. That cooperation will be met with continued support from the State of Florida in financially supporting long-term infrastructure needs to accommodate water capacity needs.

The Governor also has continued to direct state-level involvement in educating and attracting advanced manufacturing talent through deployment of workforce and infrastructure dollars. In addition to Brevard County having received over \$11 million in funds from FloridaCommerce, the County has actual and planned investments totaling over \$668 million by FDOT through 2029 and the county and cities have received over \$213 million in funds from the Department of Environmental Protection. If we look to the Space Coast as a whole, that number becomes even more staggering—more than \$2 billion in funds have been awarded or are planned through 2029 to support infrastructure and job creation in the Volusia, Brevard, and Indian River region.

In 2023, an independent study undertaken by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast laid out recommendations for continued growth on the Cape. The ultimate recommendation—and longest and most costly to implement—is to build a new regional facility on the mainland, and to divert flows from all six existing facilities to the new regional facility.

We do not dispute the long-term need, or the recommendations provided by the study. Rather, we encourage the County to examine all possible options, including the current value of using its existing and available excess wastewater treatment capacity to encourage job creation in Florida's critical industries.

To be clear, as illustrated in the June 2023 study commissioned by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast entitled "Conceptual Alternatives Evaluation for Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Wastewater Treatment Options," the County currently has sufficient available wastewater treatment capacity to support expanding space industry operations on the Cape. Contrary to that finding, however, we have learned that the County has denied increased wastewater processing needs requested by members of the commercial space industry—when those increases will expand the industry, create new jobs, and bolster Florida's leadership in advanced manufacturing. Meanwhile, the

State of Florida has provided historic levels of funding to support water quality and capacity. This includes additional funding through the state's resiliency funding for coastal areas susceptible to flooding and tropical weather.


The state supports the expansion of the space industry in Florida and in Brevard County. The County should immediately revisit its decision not to permit more wastewater capacity, for immediate potential space industry projects, and for the projects that will inevitably follow. Should the County do so, and thereby further strengthen Florida's space industry, then we as state agency leaders will remain confident in the funding we have deployed and plan to deploy to the County through various state funding mechanisms.

FloridaCommerce, alongside unified state partners—including the Florida Department of Transportation, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Department of Education, and Space Florida—remains eager to build on our collective efforts to support continued growth and investment in Brevard County. Our agencies want to partner with the county to pursue a common-sense, long-term vision of business growth and development. To that end, we stand ready to explore targeted funding and other support to ensure that the County's wastewater facilities are maintained or expanded to accommodate this growing economic need.

We want to meet with you soon to discuss the space industry in Florida and Brevard County, the Governor's historic investments in water and wastewater in the region, how we can provide technical assistance in submitting applications for grant funding—including for water quality improvements to the Indian River Lagoon—and how we can work together to maintain Florida and Brevard County's status as the preeminent destination for the space industry.


Sincerely,


J. Alex Kelly
Secretary
FloridaCommerce


Jared W. Perdue, P.E.
Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation


Shawn Hamilton
Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental Protection


Robert Long
President & CEO
Space Florida


Manny Diaz
Commissioner
Florida Department of Education

Cc: Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez, Chair, Space Florida



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County Manager's Office

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building C, Room 301
Viera, Florida 32940

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL: 7020 1810 0001 3178 9828

November 5, 2024

J. Alex Kelly
Secretary
Florida Department of Commerce
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Secretary Kelly, Secretary Perdue, Secretary Hamilton, Commissioner Diaz, and Mr. Long:

We are in receipt of your October 28, 2024, letter regarding water resources availability and strategic growth in Brevard County. First, let me state that we strongly share the common view of continued economic growth in Brevard County especially associated with and in the Space related sector. However, having read your letter, I feel that there are important points that may not have been conveyed to you and wish to take this opportunity to brief you on the history and what Brevard County is currently doing to work with Space Florida for the short and long term.

The discussion of additional wastewater capacity needed due to the growth at KSC associated with Space Florida and of the option of connecting into the Brevard County collection system has been going on for over 6 years. Enclosed is a letter dated August 16, 2024, from Brevard County Utilities to Rob Long, Space Florida. As detailed in that letter, Brevard County has been and continues to be open and willing to collaborate with Space Florida to explore connecting into the Brevard County wastewater system at our Sykes Creek facility. As we have expressed throughout the 6 years of conversations with Space Florida, there is due diligence required to assure that any agreement between the County and Space Florida define roles, responsibilities, and fair cost allocations. Brevard County has sought this due diligence. This includes, at a minimum; establishing the level of industrial pretreatment required prior to flows being sent to the Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant, establishing the ultimate wastewater flow from Space Florida to the Brevard County system, and establishing each parties' responsibilities, including costs. Not performing this due diligence could leave Brevard County and our rate payers exposed to substantial duplicative, unplanned, and unforeseen costs as we move forward.

The level of industrial wastewater pre-treatment needs to be established to ensure that any flows received by Brevard County are compatible to our wastewater treatment facility. Not doing so would be a Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit violation, potentially leading to a consent order. Although revising the permit language may be an option that we continue to be willing to explore, it does not protect Brevard County for perpetuity with the State's environmental laws.

We currently have capacity at the Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant, however three independent studies performed, on behalf of the County, show that the treatment plant will be at its maximum capacity within the next 10 years. This is due to increased development growth in Merritt Island, the expansion of our septic tank to sewer conversions on Merritt Island, and recent State laws promoting septic to sewer conversions in Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP) areas. Being located within the Indian River Lagoon BMAP these initiatives are critical for Merritt Island on our efforts to protect and enhance the Indian river Lagoon.

We acknowledge, the Sykes Creek treatment plant does have capacity today. Sykes Creek, however, is projected to be at capacity within 10 years without any flow from KSC/Space Florida. We have asked Space Florida to work with us on how we can transition KSC/Space Florida from sending their flows from the Brevard County Sykes Creek facility ultimately to another alternate location over this ten-year period, so we can continue to address the increase of sewer and septic to sewer connections on Merritt Island. The Sykes Creek wastewater treatment plant, with the capacity it has today, was designed, built, and paid in full by Brevard County rate payers with the intent to service the Merritt Island community, not including or anticipating Kennedy Space Center flows.

Without an agreement between Space Florida and Brevard County to transition flows long term, any future treatment plant expansion will be a burden that will fall on Brevard County rate payers who have already paid for that service. This would result at an estimated cost at least 5 times more than what it cost the County to expand the treatment plant 30 years ago. Notwithstanding this information, neither the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners nor Brevard County staff have denied increased wastewater processing needs requested by members of the commercial space industry. All we have asked for is due diligence before proceeding.

As this issue of additional treatment capacity was brought forth again recently, Brevard County has taken an active lead to establish short- and long-term solutions involving the growth at KSC/Space Florida. Our Utility Services Department staff are meeting monthly with Space Florida's staff to define the due diligence needed and to assess the progress of such. Our Utility Services Department has hired Hazen Engineering, a national engineering firm specializing in wastewater projects, to be involved throughout for their input, feedback and to provide support in the evaluation of the due diligence.

To secure a long-term solution that will meet everyone's need, the County has partnered with the Space Coast Economic Development Commission in obtaining a \$750,000 grant from the Department of Defense a Military Installation Resilience program to access transferring all wastewater flows from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station's wastewater facility to a future facility to be located in the vicinity of Port St John, Florida. The estimated professional services fee to conduct this study is \$2.5M. Brevard County has submitted for a \$1.25M Florida Department of Environmental Protection Resiliency Planning grant and are waiting for their decision. In the meantime, the County has already received approval from our County Board of Commissioners that if the grant is not approved, to proceed with the study and for the supplemental cost to be funded by the County's Utility Services Department. This study will detail the means, methods, and cost for a long-term solution to best serve KSC/Space Florida and Brevard County residents and facilitate the desired space industry economic growth.

Notably, this study is being undertaken by Brevard County and will benefit Space Florida, the State of Florida, or any other members of the Space industry. We trust this initiative shows our firm commitment to move forward in a way that best serves our community and the Space Industry long term. Considering your letter, we are optimistic that the State, State agencies and Space Florida will support this important long-term initiative and assist us to obtain the necessary resources to accomplish this critical need.

In closing, Brevard County welcomes the leadership of Governor DeSantis, Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez, Space Florida, and your State Agencies to discuss and partner with us to achieve and meet the goals of Brevard County and the State of Florida.

Respectfully,



Frank Abbate
County Manager

cc: Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez, Chair, Space Florida
Rita Pritchett, District 1 Brevard County Commissioner
Tom Goodson, District 2 Brevard County Commissioner
John Tobia, District 3 Brevard County Commissioner
Rob Feltner, District 4 Brevard County Commissioner
Jason Steele, District 5 Brevard County Commissioner
John Denninghoff, Assistant County Manager, Brevard County
Morris Richardson, County Attorney, Brevard County
Edward Fontanin, Utility Services Director, Brevard County

December 3, 2024 Regular BOCC Meeting

Item: J. 2.

Motion By: TC TA

2nd By: KD

Commissioner	District	Yes	No
Delaney	1	✓	
Goodson	2	✓	
Atkinson	3	✓	
Altman	5	✓	
Feltner	4	✓	

Vice
Chair

Chair

5-0